

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 3/12/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE James Caruso, Senior Planner/805 781-5702	
(4) SUBJECT Hearing to consider the 2010-2012 Biennial Summary Report of the Resource Management System (RMS) that summarizes the condition of the following resources throughout the county: water supply and systems, wastewater treatment, roads and U.S. Highway 101, parks, and schools. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION That the Board of Supervisors: 1. Approve the 2010-2012 Biennial Resource Summary Report and recommendations; 2. Direct County staff to implement the applicable recommendations of the 2010-2012 Biennial Resource Summary Report.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Department Budget	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. 120 mins) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est.____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning and Building / James Caruso, Senior Planner

VIA: Kami Griffin, Assistant Director

DATE: 3/12/2013

SUBJECT: Hearing to consider the 2010-2012 Biennial Summary Report of the Resource Management System (RMS) that summarizes the condition of the following resources throughout the county: water supply and systems, wastewater treatment, roads and U.S. Highway 101, parks, and schools. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the 2010-2012 Biennial Resource Summary Report and recommendations;
2. Direct County staff to implement the applicable recommendations of the 2010-2012 Biennial Resource Summary Report.

DISCUSSION

Introduction

The Resource Management System (RMS) is a part of the County's Land Use Element of the General Plan. The goal of RMS, as set forth in the Land Use Element, is as follows:

"In the most general terms, the goal of the Resource Management System is to provide information in support of decisions about balancing land development and population growth with the resources required to support them."

To that end, the RMS tries to identify levels of resource and service problems that may occur as our communities and rural areas develop. The extent of these potential problems is characterized as levels of severity (LOS) I, II and III, with level III defined as the most serious level. The levels of severity are usually based on the projected number of years it will take for the resource or service to be impacted due to development. They are defined in the Framework for Planning, Part I of the County's Land Use Element.

This report is entitled the RMS Biennial Summary Report. It is produced every two years and is meant to provide a summary of the resources and services available in our communities and rural areas for the years that are covered by the report. The report is formatted to address resources and services on a community level. However, it is important to note that many resources and services are regional in nature such as schools, air quality, roads and interchanges. In the past few years, water supply has been considered more on a regional or watershed basis instead of on an individual community basis. Examples are the Nipomo and Northern Cities management areas and the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Groundwater Management Plan.

The summary table in the Introduction chapter of the Summary Report lists generalized levels of severity on a community basis. The details of those levels are contained in the sections addressing each community.

2010-2012 Report Issues

Recommended Changes to Levels of Severity

The following level of severity changes are recommended in the Summary Report:

Resource/Service	Existing LOS	Recommended LOS	Reason for Change
Las Tablas Rd. Templeton	II	None	New traffic counts
Halcyon Rd. Oceano Area	III	I	New traffic counts
CSA 10A water system Cayucos	III	None	Water System Improvements
Ozone Nipomo Mesa Area	II	None	No exceedances since 2008

Cambria

The community of Cambria has been under a water moratorium instituted by the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) for new development since 2002. As a result of the moratorium, little new development has been approved in Cambria since that time. The CCSD has been working towards water conservation and supplemental water sources to increase water supply.

The CCSD is now contemplating the issuance of new intent-to-serve letters for new development. In order to accomplish this, two actions need to be taken:

1. The CCSD moratorium must be addressed. County staff believes that any proposed revision to the moratorium is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CCSD should be the lead agency and the County, a Responsible Agency. The lead agency needs to prepare an adequate CEQA document that addresses any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed actions. The County will work with the District to produce the document.
2. The Growth Management Ordinance must be revised to modify the 0% Maximum Annual Allocation in order to allow for the issuance of permits from the County based on the issuance of intent-to-serve letters from the CCSD. Any amendments to the Growth Management Ordinance also are subject to CEQA, as well as public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. The County can use the CEQA document approved by the CCSD for these amendments.

No change to the LOS III is needed at this time. An LOS III does not necessarily lead to a development moratorium. There are three major groundwater basins that are currently listed as an LOS III: Los Osos, Nipomo and Paso Robles. In none of the three basins that are listed as LOS III has a moratorium been recommended or enacted. Instead, increased water conservation, outside water use limits and collaborative actions have been instituted to address water issues. The same LOS III approach can be used in Cambria. In addition, the LOS III exists directly due to the moratorium put in place by the CCSD.

To assist the CCSD, the County will amend the recommended actions of the 2010-2012 RMS Biennial Summary Report. The recommended actions state:

1. Leave the LOS III in place.
2. Collaborate with the CCSD to address issuance of a limited number of intent-to-serve letters and building permits based on the aggressive water conservation program developed by Maddaus.
3. Collaborate with the CCSD to revise the County Growth Management Ordinance to reflect the issuance of a small number of building permits for new development as part of a temporary pilot program.
4. Collaborate with the CCSD to prepare a CEQA document, with the County acting as a Responsible Agency that identifies the potentially significant impacts of a temporary, small-scale pilot program to issue intent-to-serve letters and building permits for new development.

The Board could also direct that the County work with the CCSD and the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) to review the information contained in the Maddaus and other reports in order to determine if lowering the LOS is appropriate. The revision to the LOS could then be reflected in the next Biennial Resource Summary Report, or before that time if appropriate.

Nipomo

The Nipomo Mesa Water Conservation Area (NMWCA) or Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) is part of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin adjudication. The major water providers have formed a Technical Group (TG) to monitor basin conditions. The TG issues reports once a year. The NMMA discussion in the RMS report is based on the 2011 TG report released in April 2012. The TG's major findings in the 2011 report include:

1. The TG recommends that the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project be implemented as soon as possible.
2. Potentially Severe Water Shortage Conditions continue to exist in the NMMA as indicated by the Key Wells Index.
3. Spring groundwater elevations underlying the NMMA, indicated by the Key Wells Index of eight (8) wells, decreased sharply from 2010 levels after a slight increase last year following a three consecutive year decline (see Section 7.1.1 Groundwater Conditions). Several of the Key Wells have seen declining groundwater elevations since about 2000 (see Section 6.1.1 Results from Inland Key Wells).

In addition, the TG recommends that:

"An additional water supply that would allow reduced pumping within the NMMA is the most effective method of reducing the stress on the aquifers and allow groundwater elevations to recover."

The Stipulation (the agreement among parties approved by the judge in the adjudication) states that the Nipomo Community Services District (CSD) "...agrees to purchase and transmit to the NMMA a minimum of 2,500 acre-feet of Nipomo Supplemental Water each Year." The TG's report also indicates that the larger water providers on the Mesa will help fund the supplemental water project on a pro rata basis (Woodlands Mutual Water Co., Golden State Water Co. Rural Water Co.).

While the County does not supply water on the Mesa, the County has land use authority. The County has adopted land use measures over the years on the Mesa to help address the area water issues. The following land use measures affect all lands on the Mesa, not just lands within the Nipomo CSD boundary:

- The County instituted land use and water efficiency measures such as the Title 8 retrofit program.
- The County instituted a fee for new construction to help finance area wide conservation (\$750.00 per toilet).

- New outdoor water use standards for new construction were instituted.
- An AB 1600 study is required of the County in order to study the benefits of the supplemental water project and to establish a fee on future development to help pay for the future project.

These programs should continue, with the exception of the Title 8 Retrofit on Sale Ordinance. Additional recommendations in the 2010-2012 report are as follows:

1. Consider ending the Title 8 retrofit-upon-sale ordinance in the NMWCA. The program has run for four years and approximately 5% of homes have needed retrofitting.
2. Follow the progress of the Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee. Coordinate any needed County actions such as an AB 1600 study to quantify the costs and benefits of the identified supplemental water project for groundwater users outside the Nipomo CSD and other water provider areas.
3. Collaborate with the Nipomo CSD and other stakeholders to assist in their efforts to address area wide water issues.
4. Continue to help fund area wide water conservation through the fee on new construction.

Cayucos

There is a level of severity III for the water system in CSA 10A, one of the three water providers in Cayucos. This LOS was established in the 2009-2010 Annual Resource Summary Report due to fire flow limitations. The design work needed to improve fire flow is being completed and the LOS III should be removed.

Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC)

The WRAC appointed a subcommittee to review the draft Summary Report. The WRAC approved the comment letter in Attachment 2 of this staff report. The following are responses to some of the WRAC's comments:

1. **Comment:** Water supply and demand should be described in more detail.
Response: More detailed explanations of supply have been provided where needed.
2. **Comment:** Include information on peak water system capacity.
Response: This information is not part of RMS considerations and is the sole responsibility of the water provider.
3. **Comment:** An explanation of State Water supply should be included (such as in the Master Water Report).
Response: Water supply details have been included using the Master Water Report information or reference is made to the Master Water Report.
4. **Comment:** Water use estimates through 2020 should stay in the document.
Response: The 2020 water use estimates were required through state law (SB7-7). The projections are found in the 2009-2010 RMS Summary Report.
5. **Comment:** Provide a list of non-responsive water providers.
Response: The agencies (Public Works, Health and Planning) have been directed to expand the list of reporting water providers through previous report recommendations. The "three-legged stool," as it was described by the WRAC, should continue to work toward compliance by additional providers.

6. **Comment:** Provide documentation of agency-provided information.
Response: Water supply paragraphs and tables and water demand tables have been annotated to provide the source of the information.
7. **Comment:** Missing data are available from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).
Response: The DWR collects similar information from eight water providers in the county. The Public Works Department collects data from about 30 water providers. The missing information is generally not available from DWR.

Resource Management System Changes

Your Board has directed staff to revise portions of the Resource Management System (RMS). The specific revisions include changing level of severity definitions, establishing standard actions when resource issues are identified, adding levels of severity for interchanges and completing the LOS definitions for parkland. Staff has worked with the WRAC to develop and complete level of severity changes for water supply and water systems. Recommended changes to the RMS will be brought to your Board in the Spring/Summer of 2013.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The following agencies and service providers have responded to requests for information:

Avila Beach CSD	San Miguelito Water Co.	Nipomo CSD
Golden State Water Co.	City of Pismo Beach	City of Arroyo Grande
City of Grover Beach	Atascadero School Dist.	SSLO Sanitation District
City of San Luis Obispo	APCD	County Public Works
City of Atascadero	Atascadero MWC	City of Paso Robles
Templeton CSD	San Miguel CSD	CSA 16
CSA 23	Heritage Ranch CSD	Paso Robles School Dist.
Avila Valley MWC	Cambria CSD	CSA 10A
Los Osos CSD	S & T MWC	City of Morro Bay
Golden State WC	Shandon School Dist.	Templeton School Dist.
Pleasant Valley Sch. Dis.	County GSA	

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

To the degree existing county staff is used to develop the reports and implement the recommendations, only minimal added costs will occur. For proposed projects requiring additional funding, staff will estimate the costs for future review by your Board.

RESULTS

The purpose of this report is to highlight resource issues throughout the county, especially those needing timely consideration by the Board of Supervisors. Adoption of the report will enable County staff to implement the resource projects and programs recommended in the report to avoid and address resource deficiencies, subject to availability of staff and funding, as directed by your Board.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2011-2012 Resource Management System (RMS) Biennial Summary Report
2. Letter of comment from the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)